

# Introduction

This statewide profile describes the epidemiology of HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD's) in Indiana, mainly through December 2003, the last date of surveillance information available. The report describes the distribution of the HIV and AIDS by geography, age, sex, race, ethnicity and associated risk categories.

The purpose of this profile is to assist in the development of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care plan by providing the necessary data that can aid in designing and implementing prevention and care services, as well as pointing out the dimensions of unmet needs for infected persons throughout the state of Indiana.

In order to meet those criteria, the profile will address four key questions:

1. What are the socio-demographic characteristics of Indiana's population?
2. What is the scope of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Indiana?
3. What are the indicators of risk for HIV/AIDS in Indiana?
4. What are the patterns of service utilization of HIV-infected people in Indiana?